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New Jersey OSHA E-Newsletter

Region II Launches N.J. E-Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Spotlight on Parsippany	2
NJ Worker Deaths Up	3
Target: Silica	4
OSHA Trains other Fed's	5
Federal S & H Councils	5
1999 Injury Rate Down	6
OSHA's Focus	6

With the release of this (e)lectronic newsletter, OSHA Region II (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) takes a new direction in its efforts to communicate with its customers. According to Region II Administrator, Patricia K. Clark, "OSHA must utilize every tool possible to educate people about the issues of occupational safety and health. With the advent of the internet, e-commerce, etc., and the tremendous numbers of companies/people accessing these services, it would be short-sighted not to reach out using this medium." The primary goal of this publication will be to bring timely information concerning occupational safety and health issues to its readers. The information will cover a wide range of topics but will, first

and foremost, always relate to safety & health issues as they impact New Jersey employers/employees. We will attempt to provide interesting stories that will also educate and guide the reader in their efforts to begin or improve their worksite's safety and health efforts. We will be open to, and encourage, the submission of suggestions for topics to be covered. We will also consider including any safety and health article written by the submitter to the extent that it is appropriate and is not a "marketing" piece for any company, product or person. OSHA's mandate is to reduce the numbers of injuries and illnesses suffered by the American workforce. To that end, we hope that this endeavor will help us all in meeting that imperative.

**Want Training? Attend
Seminars?
See Pages 4 & 7**

**HOT ISSUES you'll read
about in our next issue:**

**The NEW Recordkeeping
Standard**

**The NEW Ergonomics
Standard**

**The NEW Steel Erection
Standard**

**And MUCH, MUCH
more. Don't Miss It!**

The Regional Administrator's Corner



Patricia K. Clark, Regional Administrator, OSHA Reg. II

Editors Note: Patricia K. Clark is a graduate of Ursinus College, B.S.; Drexel Univ., M.Sc. and has been with OSHA since 1975. She became Region II administrator in 1994 and will be a regular feature of this publication.

I am really thrilled and excited about the inauguration of this publication. While enforcement will always be a primary function of OSHA, I have always believed we have a responsibility to educate employers and employees about what is needed of them to create and maintain a safe and healthful workplace. As an agency, we need to take advantage of whatever communication avenues are available to us and our customers. This publication is one such avenue. It is my hope that as it evolves, it will become a major source of information about workplace safety and health for all New Jersey employers and employees.

Another communication avenue that OSHA has taken was the establishment of our Compliance

(See RA' Corner, on page 2)

Spotlight on: The Parsippany Area Office



The Parsippany OSHA Area Office Staff. Not in photo, Ronnie Byrd, Sedigheh Sharifpour, and Lou Ricca (Photographer)



Mr. David Ippolito, Area Director, Parsippany OSHA Area Office (Essex, Hudson, Morris & Sussex Counties)

The Parsippany Area Office (PAO) has been located at 299 Cherry Hill Road, Parsippany, NJ since March of 1990. The Area Director, Mr. David Ippolito, along with his two Assistant A.D., Darlene Fossum, AAD-Safety and Kris Hoffman, AAD-Health, leads the office team. Currently the staff consists of eight (8) Safety Compliance Officers: Ronnie Byrd, Carol Hammell, Gary Jensen, David Katsock, Patti Jo Kulick, Lou Murphy, Patck Nies and Jane Secor; four (4) Industrial Hygienists: Beatriz Cabrera,

Isabel De Oliveira, Tara Gertz, and Sedigheh Sharifpour; and two (2) Support Staff members: Ronnie Bilczewski and Julie Stover. Also assigned to the PAO is your editor, Mr. Lou Ricca, Compliance Assistance Specialist. Mr. Ippolito has worked for OSHA since 1977 and has held positions as a Senior Industrial Hygienist and as AAD-Health. He is a (twice) former Certified Industrial Hygienist.

(RA's Corner, continued from page 1)

Assistance Specialist (CAS) positions. A little over a year ago, we announced the creation of this position and the appointment of Lou Ricca (Parsippany AO) as our first CAS, with responsibility for all of New Jersey. Lou has been very active this first year conducting dozens of presentations for both industry and labor groups. These presentations have ranged from speeches to full blown technical training and have covered many varied OSHA topics. He has also been active in the establishment of local partnership efforts and the development of Voluntary Protection Participant (VPP) sites.

Now, I am happy to announce that due to the overwhelming success of this position, and demand for services, I have also appointed Mr. Martin Davis to the position of CAS. Mr. Davis will work out of the Marlton AO and will also be involved in the outreach, and other related efforts

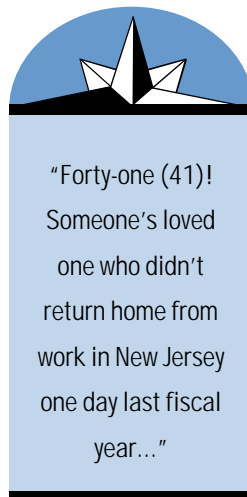
in New Jersey. Mr. Davis has been with OSHA since 1990 when he worked as a Compliance Officer before being promoted to his prior position, in May 1997, as Assistant Area Director, Safety, in the Marlton office. Martin is looking forward to his new position and we are both confident he can assist New Jersey's employers and workers in improving safety on their jobs. I know also that Lou Ricca is looking forward to working with Martin. In the past, Lou has had to either juggle or decline giving presentations because of previous commitments. With Martin coming on board, it is less likely that we will not be able to accommodate these requests and that's really what the CAS position is all about—OSHA serving you, our customers.

NJ Worker Deaths Increase

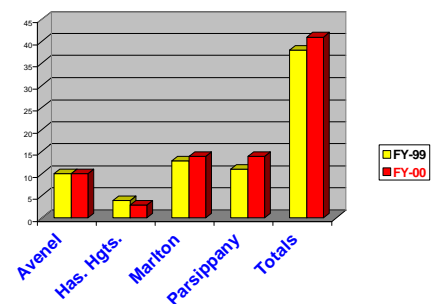
Forty-one (41)! Just numbers on a page right? Unless they represent, as they do here, lives lost. Someone's loved one who didn't return home from work one day in New Jersey during this past fiscal year. OSHA, and the safety profession in general, has fully recognized the areas most often causing these deaths (see the related article, OSHA Focus). Falls, Electrocutions, being Struck By and Being Caught In/Between, are the leading causes of worker deaths nationwide* and here in New Jersey. During FY 2000, NJ workers suffered fourteen (14) fatal falls, fourteen (14) fatal accidents from being caught between or in equipment/materials, eight (8) instances of being struck by equipment (primarily vehicles), three electrocutions and two (2) deaths by drowning. And, the really sad part is that they were all preventable. If, as someone once explained, "the word accident, by definition is an unplanned, unexpected occurrence." How then can instances that we know happen all the time, be considered an "accident?" We know that people working at heights, without proper fall protection, will fall. Maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow. Maybe not even you, but somewhere, someday, someone will fall and DIE! Yet, we call this an accident. This is also true of the other primary causes. OSHA continues to routinely find workers in unprotected trenches, on unguarded scaffolds, operating unguarded machinery, not wearing reflective vests, no back-up alarms, etc., etc., etc. Despite our previous best efforts, we are still losing approximately 16 workers every day nationwide. All of us, labor, employers, consultants, local, state and federal agencies must teach, preach and enforce the following of safe work practices. It's the only way we're going to stop these needless deaths. Let's all do our part to ensure that in next January's article, we can report about the reduction in NJ workplace fatalities. [Editors Note: This was the Bad News, for the Good News see related article Record Low Injuries... on page 2]

* Does not include vehicle related deaths.

Note: Remember that if you need direction or assistance in the areas of safety training, information, etc., please call your local OSHA area office or, the NJ-DOL Consultation service at the numbers listed on the last page.

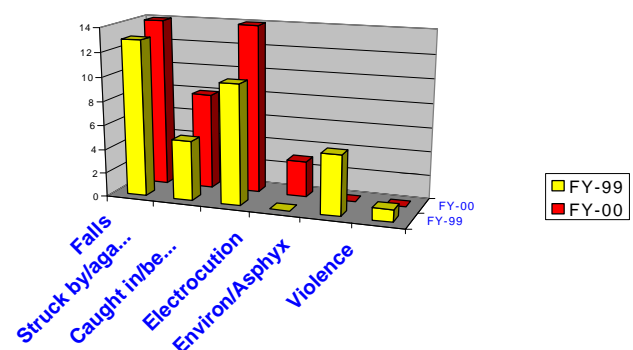


NJ Fatalities FY-99 vs FY-00



During FY (fiscal year Oct. 1-Sept. 30) 2000, NJ workers suffered 3 more deaths compared with FY-99. This chart shows the breakdown by OSHA area office investigating. Source: OSHA IMIS Database, fatal investigations by area office.

Fatal Causes FY-99 vs. FY-00



This chart clearly shows the increase in all four "focused" injury categories, in NJ, during FY-00. Employer/employee awareness of these hazards must be heightened. Source: OSHA IMIS Database, fatal investigations by area office.

Marlton AO Kicks Off Silica Initiative

One of the key elements of OSHA's Strategic Plan is to, "reduce three of the most prevalent types of workplace injuries and illnesses by 20% by focusing on those industries and occupations that cause the most injuries/illnesses and pose the greatest risk to workers." Silicosis, contracted through over exposure to silica dust, is one of the three. Accordingly, the Marlton Area Office has established a goal of reducing the incidence of unprotected employee exposure to silica, in the concrete industries of southern New Jersey, by 15% by the year 2003. This initiative has three phases consisting of awareness, outreach, employer implementation, and OSHA enforcement. As part of our awareness and outreach efforts, the Marlton Area Office will be conducting a three hour awareness program on, "Silica in the Concrete Industry" on February 21, 2001 at the Mid-Atlantic Concrete Construction, and Aggregate Forum, (sponsored by the NJ Concrete Aggregate Association – NJCAA), to be held at the Trump Taj Mahal in Atlantic City. Between one thousand and fifteen hundred members are expected to attend. Topics will include **Silicosis and its affects**, to be presented by guest speaker, Dr. Zwiebel, MD from the Occupational Medicine Department of Kessler Memorial Hospital in Hammonton, NJ; **Respiratory Protection** to be presented by Duane Hall from 3M, and a discussion of the OSHA regulations covering the hazards most commonly found at concrete manufacturing establishments, including **Noise, Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout), Confined Spaces, and Chemical Hazard Communication**. The New Jersey State Consultation Service and the New Jersey Department of Health will also be represented at the forum.

During this outreach phase, the Marlton Area Office staff will educate employers and employees in establishments that are included in the targeted Standard Industrial Codes (SIC-3271, 3272, and 3273), with regard to the hazards of silica, as well as the other safety and health hazards typically found in their workplaces. The outreach phase will be followed by an implementation phase during which employers will be expected to implement OSHA-compliant programs at their establishments. As a component to this initiative, the New Jersey State Consultation Service will be available to assist employers in reaching this goal. Finally, after an appropriate period of time, the last phase of the initiative, the enforcement phase will commence. During this phase, establishments selected from a list of those within the targeted SIC will be scheduled for compliance inspections.

OSHA firmly believes that by working together in a cooperative manner such as this, by making sure that employers have the necessary knowledge and information they need, will result in safer work environments and reduce injuries and illnesses caused, in this case, by silica.

For more on silica, contact your local OSHA area office.

For information about attending the forum, contact NJCAA at (609)771-0099.

Need Training? Upcoming OSHA Sessions & Contacts

NJ State Safety Council*
6 Commerce Drive
Cranford, NJ 07016-3597
908-272-7712
www.njsafety.org

Feb 12-15,	
Mar 19-22,	
Apr 30-May 3	40-hour Hazwoper
Feb 9, Mar 7	
Apr 6	8-hour Hazwoper refresher
Feb 23	8-hour Hazwoper Supervisor
Feb 28	Trenching Competent Person
Feb 15	Ergonomics (OSHA Update)
Feb 27	Shift Work Safety
Mar 30	Confined Space Train the Trainer
Mar 23	Haz Mat Trans for Shippers
Mar 6 or 7	Lift Truck Train the Trainer
Mar 28	In-house evaluation for Lift Truck
	Train the Trainer
Mar 15-16	Respiratory Protection Adm.
	Proficiency
Mar 8,15,22,29	Principles of Occ. Safety & Health
Apr 3 & 4	10 hour OSHA Construction
Apr 12	Warehouse/Dist. Center Safety
Apr 25	Electrical Safety
Apr 26	Fall Protection Update

OSHA Training Institute
1555 Times Drive
Des Plaines, ILL 60018-1548
847-297-4913
www.osha.gov

Niagara County Community College
50 Main St.
Lockport, NY 14094
800-280-6742
www.sunyniagara.cc.ny.us

**Adjunct of Niagara County Community College*

Federal Agencies Receive OSHA Training

It has been many years since OSHA has hosted the #600 Collateral Duty Course for Other Federal Agencies in Region II. At the request of the Southern NJ Field Federal Safety and Health Council, OSHA's Region II Administrator, Patricia Clark, authorized a presentation of the course. During the week of October 23, 2000, the 40 hour class was presented to representatives from the Air Force, FAA, Postal Service and other agencies as well as some private sector companies.

[Editors Note: see related story on Federal Safety & Health Councils]

Ordinarily, an OSHA institute course such as this would be limited to a maximum of about 50 people. However, due to the high level of interest in this class, Ms. Clark waived that limitation and some 85 people attended the course. Aside from the desire to obtain this invaluable safety and health training, an added incentive was the extremely low cost of only \$75 for the class which, included daily continental breakfast and lunch. This was made possible by the McGuire AFB Non-Commissioned Officers Club (for which we thank them for their outstanding services) and, the fact that Region II defrayed the difference in cost. From the first request for this course, Ms. Clark stated that "we owed this level of training to our fellow government employees and she would authorize necessary funds to ensure its success." The course content covered the full range of both General Industry and Construction standards. Presenter's included our Regional Administrator, Area Directors, Assistant Area Directors, Regional Assistant Regional Administrators and staff members. The feedback from the attendees was most positive and they especially commented on the high level of the presentations real life examples that were given by the very people that deal with these issues every day. Ms. Clark stated that, "she hopes to be able to offer similar courses, through the councils, on a more regular basis.



Federal (Safety & Health) Collateral Duty personnel hear from course Chairperson Anthony DeSiervi at McGuire AFB, Bordentown, NJ Oct. 23-27, 2000.

NJ FIELD FEDERAL SAFETY & HEALTH COUNCILS

Field Federal Safety and Health councils are established in each region of the country. Their purpose is to establish an avenue for mutual sharing of information and training, between the different government agencies in an area, relative to safety and health issues. While they are primarily focused on the federal sector, the rules not only allow, but encourage, the participation of private sector companies as members of these councils. In NJ, we currently have two councils operating. The Southern council is a very active, award winning chapter that holds meetings on a quarterly basis. The Northern council, which had been dormant for a number of years, has recently reformed and is in the process of setting up its meeting schedule. For information on the Southern council, contact Marlton Area Director, Gary Roskoski and for the Northern council, Hasbrouck Heights AD, Lisa Levy.

Would you like to attend a Federal S&H Council Meeting? It is open to private sector employers and employees.

See the Conference & Seminar listing on Page 7.

RECORD LOW WORKPLACE INJURIES IN 1999

BLS (Bureau of Labor Statistics), reported that the national workplace injury data for 1999 (the latest year available), had an overall rate of 6.3 cases per 100 workers, the lowest ever recorded. A comparison was made with the 11.0 cases/100 reported in 1973 (its first survey and highest recorded) and, with 1994 which recorded 8.4 cases/100. Lost work day injuries and illnesses fell from 2.8 million in 1998 to 2.7 million in 1999. The lost workday case rate also fell from 3.1 cases/100 in 1998 to 3.0 for 1999. BLS also reported however, that in contrast to the decreased numbers in all other categories,

restricted work time remained at its 1998 level of 1.2 cases/100 which, could account for some of the decrease in lost time cases. In 1990, the restricted case rate per 100 was 0.7. Overall, Manufacturing maintained the highest injury rate at 9.2 cases/100 compared with 8.6 for Construction, 7.3 in Transportation and 6.1 in the Wholesale/Retail trades. For full details of the report, including the related data tables and graphs, go to www.bls.gov.

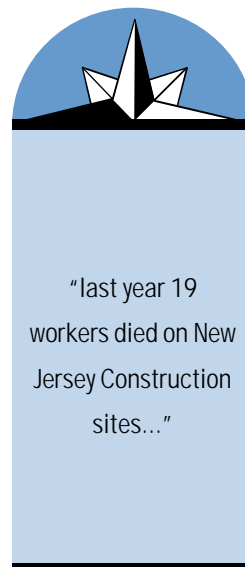
New Jersey OSHA Focuses on the Most Dangerous Construction Hazards

Construction accidents continue to account for a disproportionate share of workplace injuries and deaths! Every year young men and women are disabled or killed as a result of serious and preventable hazards! Last year 19 workers died in New Jersey from accidents on construction sites. The majority of these tragic accidents were the result of exposure to very **preventable** conditions. Listed below, in descending order by frequency, are these hazardous conditions:

falls
struck-by
caught-in
electrocution

These four hazardous conditions have been the chief causes of death on construction sites over the past decade. While OSHA has always identified these conditions whenever they were observed, our compliance staffs are focusing more of their time and attention to areas where these hazards would be most evident. Said Parsippany Area Director David Ippolito, "we [Area Directors] want to feel absolutely confident that every location in a construction site where these hazards might exist is being thoroughly looked at. Beyond that, our compliance officers will also be spending time stressing awareness of these concerns with both employers and employees. Year after year these conditions continue and often lead to death or permanent disability. Tragically, all too often, our intervention occurs only after a worker is killed."

We all need to be more pro-active in our interventions for workplace safety. Many of you reading this article have the means to make a substantial difference. Collectively, we are asking your help in sending all construction workers home the way they arrived: alive and well!



NJ Safety & Health Con-

Federal Safety & Health Council Meetings:

Northern NJ Council

February 16, 2001

Parmalat USA, Wallington, NJ

Topics: Construction Fall Protection and Managing Accidents through Loss Control

For further information Contact:

Barry Pusaver (973)468-7028 or,
your local OSHA Area Office

Southern NJ Council

March 7, 2001

Ft. Monmouth, NJ

Topics: Computer Vision Syndrome and Kid Safe Driving

For further information Contact:

Tom Skirzynski, (732)323-2525 or,
your local OSHA Area Office

NJ Department of Labor, NJ State Safety Council and the NJ State Industrial Safety Committee presents:

Back-to-the-Basics S & H Conference

March 1, 2001

Princeton Marriott Forrestal Village

Topics: Record Keeping; Lockout/Tagout and High Voltage Proximity; Confined Spaces; Excavation/Construction Tool Box; Machine Guarding; Fall Protection; Fire Prevention; Navigating the OSHA Web; and Ergonomics

For further information Contact:

Joyce Crea, (609)984-4738

NJ State Safety Council:

Occupational Safety & Health Conference

March 14, 2001

McGuire AFB, Wrightstown, NJ

Topics: Negative Pressure Fuel Leak Isolation Testing, a tour of related equipment and/or areas, and an OSHA Update by a USDOL representative

For further information Contact:

NJ State Safety Council, (908)272-7712

New Jersey State Safety Council Expo:

17th. Annual Mid-Atlantic Region Safety & Loss Control Expo 2001

June 5,6 &7, 2001

Trump Taj Mahal

Atlantic City, NJ

Topics: Multiple sessions for each learning track in, Construction; Regulatory Issues; Loss Control; Health; New Trends and Miscellaneous S&H/Loss Control Issues

For further information Contact:

NJ State Safety Council, (908)272-7712

Rutgers (CAIT), NJ-DOT, Laborers Locals 172 & 472:

Traffic Control Coordinator program

Jan 29-Feb 2, 2001

Rutgers Livingston Campus

Feb 26-Mar 2, 2001

NJ-DOT, Mt. Arlington, NJ

Mar 5-9, 2001

Laborers, Aberdeen, NJ

Topic: Five day class focusing on NJ-DOT, OSHA and MUTCD requirements for Highway Work Zone Safety. NJ State Highway/Federal funded sites require a TCC trained competent person on each site in order to bid and be awarded these projects.

For further information Contact:

Claudia Knezek, (732)445-7937

Editors Note: This newsletter provides a generic, non-exhaustive overview of OSHA standards-related topics. This newsletter does not itself alter or determine compliance responsibilities, which are set forth in the OSHA standards themselves and the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

Additional safety measures may be required by your facility under certain conditions or circumstances. Professional advice should be sought for specific situations.

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Editors Note:

This publication may be printed,
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www.osha.gov

*Comments, Ques-
tions, Suggestions,
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Want to be placed on
or, removed from our
e-mail list?*

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**[nj-osha-news@osha.
gov](mailto:nj-osha-news@osha.gov)**

NEED ASSISTANCE?

USDOL-OSHA

AVENEL AREA OFFICE: Robert Kulick, Area Director

NJ COUNTIES SERVED: Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset, Union, Warren and
Staten Island, NY

ADDRESS: Plaza 35, Suite 205
1030 St. Georges Avenue
Avenel, NJ 07001
Tel. 732-750-3270; Fax 732-750-4737

HASBROUCK HEIGHTS AREA OFFICE: Lisa Levy, Area Director

NJ COUNTIES SERVED: Bergen and Passaic

ADDRESS: 500 Route 17 South, 2nd. Floor
Hasbrouck Heights, NJ 07604
Tel. 201-288-1700; Fax 201-288-7315

MARLTON AREA OFFICE: Gary Roskoski, Area Director

NJ COUNTIES SERVED: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumber-
land, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean and Salem

ADDRESS: Building 2, Suite 120
701 Route 73 South
Marlton, NJ 08053
Tel. 856-757-5181; Fax 856-757-5087

PARSIPPANY AREA OFFICE: David Ippolito, Area Director

NJ COUNTIES SERVED: Essex, Hudson, Morris and Sussex

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225 E. State Street, 8th. Floor
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